## Fruit Review, 2002

## By Pamela K. Kanagy

Fruit trees and blooms were hampered by spring freezes, frost and cool weather. Growing conditions were then hampered by the dry summer and hot temperatures.

The Commonwealth's six major fruit crops, comprised of apples, peaches, pears, sweet cherries, tart cherries and grapes, utilized production totaled 272,955 tons in 2002. Utilized production was down 21 percent from the 346,230 tons utilized in 2001.

- *g Apples:* The 2002 commercial apple crop in Pennsylvania totaled 369 million pounds, down 23 percent from the 470 million pounds in 2001. The crop was valued at 37.0 million dollars, down 20 percent from the 2001 value. Pennsylvania ranked fifth nationally in apple production.
- *g Grapes:* Pennsylvania's 2002 total grape crop was 53,200 tons, down 13 percent from 2001. The price per ton averaged 282 dollars, down 14 dollars from last year. The total value of utilized production was 15.0 million dollars, down 18 percent from the previous year. The Commonwealth's grape production ranked fourth nationally.
- *g Pears:* The production of pears in Pennsylvania totaled 3,500 tons, down 33 percent from 2001. The utilized crop was valued

- at 1.7 million dollars, 43 percent less than the previous year. The Commonwealth ranked fifth nationally in pear production.
- *g Peaches:* Peach production in Pennsylvania totaled 59.0 million pounds in 2002, down 20 percent from 2001. The season-average price remained steady at 0.335 dollars per pound. The total value of utilized production was 19.8 million dollars. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranked fifth in peach production.
- *g Tart Cherries:* Tart cherry production in Pennsylvania totaled 3.8 million pounds, down 100,000 pounds from last year's crop. The season average price was 0.558 dollars per pound, compared with 0.127 dollars per pound in 2001. The total value of utilized production was 2.1 million dollars, more than 4 times the previous year's value. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranked fifth in the production of tart cherries.
- *g Sweet Cherries:* Production of Pennsylvania's sweet cherries in 2002 totaled 355 tons, down 39 percent from a year ago. The average price per ton increased from 2,260 dollars in 2001 to 2,480 dollars in 2002. The Commonwealth's crop for 2002 was valued at 880,000 dollars. Sweet cherry production from Pennsylvania ranked eigth nationally.

Usual Dates of Full Bloom, Harvest & Marketing

			for F	rincipal Penr	nsylvania Fru	it Crops			
Crop	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	Marketing
	5 10 15 20 25 30	5 10 15 20 25 30	5 10 15 20 25 30	5 10 15 20 25 30	5 10 15 20 25 30	5 10 15 20 25 30	5 10 15 20 25 30	5 10 15 20 25 30	
Apples									Sept 10 Oct 25 Nov 5
Peaches									Aug 10 Sept 25 Oct 1
Cherries- Sweet									Jun 20 July 8 July 10
	_								
Cherries- Tart									July 5 July 25 Aug 1
Pears	8888								Aug 15 Sept 30 Oct 31
Grapes									Sept 25 Oct 25 Nov 1

Key:

Full Bloom

Begins Most Ends

Harvesting

Active